



HF Happenings



South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
1925 - 2015

Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925

www.sarl.org.za www.iaru.org www.iaru-r1.org

No 641

January 2015

SARL Summer QRP Contest

The QRP contests are intended to be fun activities to promote QRP operation between radio amateurs. Using homebuilt equipment or operating as a portable or field station is encouraged, but is not a requirement.

The Summer QRP Contest will be on the air on Saturday 24 January from 12:00 to 15:00 UTC with SSB and CW operation using 5 watts maximum output or less.

A station may be worked once per band per mode and there are no antenna restrictions.

The first hour is limited to the 40 m only, the remaining two hours any HF, excluding the WARC, band may be used. Please comply with the contest-preferred segments as detailed in the general rules. It would be advantageous to use the standard QRP calling frequencies as the starting point.

The exchange is a RS or RST report and your grid locator. Please consider exchanging realistic signal reports and use the 6-character grid locator.

Each contact counts 1 point, each South African call area as a multiplier and each DXCC country worked counts as a multiplier.

Logs must be submitted by 31 January to contest@sarl.org.za. Indicate if the operator is a youth or YL and a photo/s of the station operating MUST accompany every log entry.

Find the complete rules in the 2015 Blue Book, which you MUST download from www.sarl.org.za/public/contests/contestrules.asp.

Looking at February, there are a number of contests to look forward to - the AWA CW Day takes place on 7 and 8 February, the National Field Day will be run on 14 and 15 February, the Youth Contest on Saturday 21 February and the first SARL Digital contest on Sunday 22 February.

Find all the rules in the 2015 Blue Book

Have a Valentine's Day dinner at your Field Day campsite. A candle-lit dinner!

ZS90SARL

For the week 19 - 25 January, the West Rand ARC will be operating ZS90SARL. QSL via the SARL electronic QSL system, LoTW or the bureau.

For the week of 26 January to 1 February, the Soutpansberg ARC will be operating ZS90SARL.

Bill Moore, NC1L, Update

Bernie, W3UR, from "The Daily DX" on 18 January put out the following update on NC1L, "The following very important update on NC1L, Bill Moore, is from Pete Chamalian, W1RM. It is sad news to DXers around the globe as Bill helped many of us through his carrier running the ARRL DXCC Desk. Let us all shower Bill with words of encouragement at his e-mail below and his call book address. On a personal note, I am sure this was a very difficult decision to make and we all need to support Bill, as it was not easy to do. Bill Thanks for all you did for the Amateur Radio DX Community! 73, Bernie"

"After much consultation with my family and as a result of the life changing accident I suffered in July 2014, I have decided to relinquish my position as Awards Manager at ARRL HQ and focus my full effort on physical therapy. I have enjoyed my years at ARRL and the countless friends I have made within the ham radio community.

I hope to maintain contact as best I can via email and hope someday I will be able to get back on the bands. E-mail can be sent to me at BillMooreNC1L@Gmail.com and while I plan to read every one, I cannot promise to reply in a timely manner.

With much gratitude and sincere thanks, Wilfred (Bill) Moore, NC1L"

Australia to UK on 477 kHz

Using the new OPERA Dynamic MF/LF beacon mode, VK5CV transmitted at 16:30 UTC on 15 January using 477 kHz and was spotted by G8HUH, receiving at -37 dB. Data recovered from the PSK-Map database shows the capture to fit exactly with the OPERA Dynamic time signature. Opera Dynamic provides an additional 5 or 6 dB gain over the conventional Opera Beacon and is automatically engaged should the decoder fail. The facility is linked to the OP8 477 kHz and OP32 136 kHz modes only. VK5CV reported using 50 watts carrier power to 160 m inverted L with a base loaded variometer. Those involved say that this may have been one of the 'Flash' propagation events linked to the MF band, to date UK/EU to VK has yet to be achieved.

African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040

18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz

SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Reunion Island, FR. Guy, F5MNV, will once again be active as FR/F5MNV from Saint Leu, Reunion Island (AF-016) between 19 March and 14 April. Activity will be on the HF bands



January 2015

1 – New Year's Day; start of ZS90SARL; start of CQ Marathon

5 – NARC opens

10 and 11 – Hunting Lions in the Air

14 – Inland schools open

15 January - your input to the South African Radio League about the draft amendments to the radio regulations to sarlregwg@sarl.org.za

16 to 18 – PEARS National VHF/UHF Contest

21 – Coastal schools open

24 – Summer QRP Contest

29 – Up the Creek, Swellendam (ZS1)

30 – Stellenbosch Wine Festival (ZS1)

31 – J&B Met, Cape Town

February 2015

2 – World Wetlands day

5 – HABEX-10 Mission meeting at ERB Club house

7 – SARL@HOME at the NARC

7 and 8 – AWA CW Day; Midmar Mile Swim, PMB

11 to 25 – Rhodes Stopesitfees (ZS2)

14 – Valentine's Day

14 and 15 – SARL National Field Day; Berry Festival, Magoebaskloof (ZS6)

18 – Ash Wednesday

18 and 19 – The 2015 Sub-Sahara Spectrum Management Conference, Johannesburg

21 – SARL Youth Contest

22 – SARL Digital Contest

27 – National Milk Tart Day

27 and 28 – SARL Council Strategic Meeting, Jhb; Clarens Beer Festival (ZS4). *Can Council not move its meeting to Clarens?*

using only CW. QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the Bureau. NO IRCs!

African DX

Namibia, V5. For the third year in a row, operators Werner, DC8QT, Georg, DD8ZX, and Klaus, DJ9KM will be active again as V5/home call from Namibia between 10 and 19 February. Activity will be on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL via their home call signs, the logs will be uploaded to LoTW. They also will take part in the CQ WPX RTTY Contest using V55V on 14 and 15 February.

QSL V55V via DJ8VC, direct or by the Bureau.

History this Week

Week starting 19 January 2015

1804 - Richard Trevithick's locomotive, runs for first time, in Wales

1837 - Thomas Davenport patented the first practical electrical motor

1839 - WS Otis of Philadelphia, Penn, was issued a US patent for the steam shovel

1872 - Cyrus Baldwin patents the hydraulic electric elevator

1878 - Thomas Alva Edison patents the gramophone (phonograph).

1886 - The Aluminium manufacturing process is developed

1886 - The London Times publishes the world's first classified ad

1907 - The first cabs fitted with meters begin operating in London

1962 - ZS4BS goes to school at Potchefstroom Central School

1975 - ZS4BS joined the SA Army

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 19 to 26 January 2015

QRP Fox Hunt

02:00 - 03:30 UTC 21 January

Mode: CW

Bands: 40 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST and state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 22 January 2015

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 21 January and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 22 January

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;

QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 24 January 2015

Post log summary at:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>

NAQCC CW Sprint

01:30 - 03:30 UTC 22 January

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once; Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1.5 x if bug, 1 x if other

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 25 January 2015

Upload log at: <http://naqcc.info/sprintlog.html>

Mail logs to: John Shannon, K3WWP, 478 E. High St., Kittanning, PA 16201, USA

Find rules at:

<http://naqcc.info/sprint201501.html>

Locust QSO Party

02:00 - 02:30 UTC (40 m) and 02:30 - 03:00 UTC (80 m) 22 January

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: (see rules)

Exchange: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 000 points per QSO; 5 000 bonus points for at least one QSO with K6VVA; 5 000 bonus points for at least one QSO with each Secret Swarmer station (name=Locust)

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points and bonus points

Submit logs by: 04:59 UTC 1 February 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://www.k6vva.com/lqp/lqplogsubmit.html>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.k6vva.com/lqp/LQP58_Rules.pdf

NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:45 - 02:15 UTC 23 January

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 25 January 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rtty.html>

QRP Fox Hunt

02:00 - 03:30 UTC 23 January

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC January 24, 2015

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

NCCC Sprint Ladder

02:30 - 03:00 UTC, 23 January

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: (see rules)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 25 January 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

CQ 160-Meter CW Contest

22:00 UTC 23 January to 22:00 UTC 25 January

Mode: CW

Bands: 160 m Only

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Single Op Assisted - high; Multi-Op high

Max operating hours: Single Op: 30 hours;

Multi-Op: 40 hours

Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts;

QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: W/VE: RST and state or province;

DX: RST and CQ Zone

QSO Points: 2 points per QSO with own country; 5 points per QSO with other countries on same continent; 10 points per QSO with other continents; 5 points per QSO with maritime mobile

Multipliers: Each US state and DC (excluding KH6/KL7); Each VE province; Each DXCC and WAE country (including KH6/KL7)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 22:00 UTC 30 January 2015

E-mail logs to: 160cw@kkn.net

Mail logs to: CQ 160 Meter Contest, PO Box 481, New Carlisle, OH 45344, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.cq160.com/rules.htm>

REF CW Contest

06:00 UTC, 24 January to 18:00 UTC 25 January

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high; Single Op Single Band - QRP, low or high; Multi-Single - QRP, low or high; Club; SWL

Max operating hours: Single Op: 28 hours in no more than three increments of at least 1 hour each

Max power: HP: >100 Watts; LP: 100 Watts; QRP: 5 Watts

Exchange: French: RST and Department/Prefix; non-French: RST and serial no

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: French: 6 points per QSO with French station same continent; French: 15 points per QSO with French station on different continent; French: 1 point per QSO with non-French station same continent; French: 2 points per QSO with non-French station on different continent; non-French: 1 point per QSO with French station same continent; non-French: 3 points per QSO with French station on different continent

Multipliers: French/Corsica departments once per band; French overseas prefixes once per band non-French DXCC countries once per band (available only to French stations)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 9 February 2015

E-mail logs to: cdfcw@ref-union.org

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

[http://concours.ref-](http://concours.ref-union.org/reglements/actuels/reg_cdfhf_dx.pdf)

[un-](http://concours.ref-union.org/reglements/actuels/reg_cdfhf_dx.pdf)

[ion.org/reglements/actuels/reg_cdfhf_dx.pdf](http://concours.ref-union.org/reglements/actuels/reg_cdfhf_dx.pdf)

BARTG RTTY Sprint

12:00 UTC, 24 January to 12:00 UTC 25 January

Mode: RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op Expert; Single Op; Multi-Op; SWL

Exchange: Serial no (no signal report)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: DXCC countries once regardless of band; JA, W, VE and VK areas once regardless of band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x continents

Submit logs by: 24 February 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://bartg.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://s3.spanglefish.com/s/7850/documents/contests/sprint/rules/current/bartg%20sprint%20rules.pdf>

SPAR Winter Field Day

17: 00 UTC 24 January to 17: 00 UTC 25 January

Mode: Any

Bands: All, except WARC

Classes: Operators (1, 2, Multi) Site (Indoor, Outdoor or Home)

Exchange: Category, ARRL Section or DX and Temperature (including F or C)

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO; Bonus: 1 000 points if commercial power not used; Bonus: 1 000 points if outdoors; Bonus: 1 000 points if not at home

Multipliers: One for each mode operated per band

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 1 March 2015

E-mail logs to: winterfd@spar-hams.org

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

[http://www.spar-](http://www.spar-hams.org/contests/winterfd/index.php?pg=2)

[hams.org/contests/winterfd/index.php?pg=2](http://www.spar-hams.org/contests/winterfd/index.php?pg=2)

WAB 1,8 MHz Phone

19:00 - 23:00 UTC 24 January

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fixed, mobile or portable;

Multi-Op - fixed, mobile or portable; Low Power;

SWL - fixed, mobile or portable

Max power: non-Low: >10 watts; Low: 10 watts

Exchange: British Isles: RS, serial no and

WAB square; Other: RS, serial no and country

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 14 February 2015

E-mail logs to: aebbooks@ntlworld.com

Mail logs to: Tony Beardsley, G3XKT, 14 York Avenue, Sandiacre, Nottingham NG10 5HB, United Kingdom

Find rules at:

<http://wab.intermip.net/Contest%20Rules.php#OtherRules>

QRP ARCI Fireside SSB Sprint

20:00 - 23:59 UTC 25 January

Mode: SSB

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: All Band; Single Band; High Bands; Low Bands

Max operating hours: 4 hours

Exchange: RS, state, province or country and ARCI number or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with ARCI member; 4 points per non-member QSO with different continent; 2 points per non-member QSO with same continent

Multipliers: States, once per band; VE Provinces, once per band; Countries, once per band
Power Mult: >10 W = x 1, 2 - 10 W = x 7, 500 mW - 2 W = x 10, 100 - 500 mW = x 15, <100 mW = x 20

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x (state mults and province mults and country mults) x power mult) and bonus points; Bonus points: 5 000 for battery power portable with temporary antenna

Submit logs by: 8 February 2015

E-mail logs to: contest@qrparci.org

Mail logs to: ARCI Fireside Sprint, c/o Jeff Hetherington, 139 Elizabeth St. W., Welland, Ontario L3C 4M3, Canada

Find rules at:

<http://www.qrparci.org/contests/fireside-sprint>

Next Week's Contests

SKCC Sprint, 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 28 January

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 28 January

CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 28 January and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 29 January

NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 30 January

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 30 January

NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 30 January

Feld Hell Sprint, 00:00 - 23:59 UTC 31 January

UBA DX Contest, SSB, 13:00 UTC 31 January to 13:00 UTC 1 February

North American SSB Sprint Contest, 00:00 - 04:00 UTC 1 February

ARS Spartan Sprint, 02:00 - 04:00 UTC 3 February

South African Amateur Radio Station

Printed by the SARL (www.sarl.org.za)

Locator: _____

QSO points _____

Confirms QSO with	Date	UTC	Band	Mode	RST

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newslines, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL DX Newsletter, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Southgate ARC News, DxCoffee and the Islands, Castles & Portable Operations Bulletin